

ARGUMENTS

Rejection of Claims on Art Grounds in the 03/31/2003 Office Action, and Traversal Thereof

In the 31 March 2003 Office Action, claims 1-40 have been rejected on prior art grounds, under 35 U.S.C 102, as follows:

Claims 1-40 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Per Cederqvist et al. (Version Management with CVS for CVS 1.11.3, 1992, 1993).

In particular, the examiner states that Per Cederqvist (PC) reference teaches the step of claim 1 including "using the language neutral representation to display source code in the language with an indication of the edits; and using the language-neutral representation to display corresponding graphical representation of the source code with indications of the edits." However, the examiner's indication of page 63 as showing modifications indicated by <<<<<<<< and >>>>>>>>, is incorrect as to claim 1 of the present invention, because the PC reference clearly states on pages 63-64 that the use of <<<<<<< and >>>>>>>> are indications of modifications only for conflict markers and for overlapping modifications, not for indications of all modifications. Also, the symbols <<<< and >>>> are not included within a graphical representation of the code, but the code itself. Rather, the examiner's combination of the conflict markers for only overlapping modifications with a graphical representation of the source code with edits does not anticipate claim 1 as it does not include every element of the claim, and it is improperly made in hindsight of the present invention as claimed in claim 1. Also, PC does not provide for a graphical representation of the code on page 11. Page 11 of the PC reference merely provides an example of a directory for a repository file, not a language-neutral diagrammatic representation of the source code, as in claim 1

of the present invention. This example was provided to show how the CVS stores data in a repository, not a representation of the code itself in a diagrammatic format.

Furthermore, the PC reference clearly states that in most cases, a user will not need to consider this information as on pages 10-11, i.e., the user will not need to view the directory and will not need to know how the CVS stores data, which teaches away from the present invention, in which the user regularly needs to consider the graphical representation of the source code in language-neutral format for the purposes of writing and editing software code more effectively and efficiently. The graphical representation of the code is not merely a user interface that is inherent in a program runnable on different platforms such as Windows, as stated by the examiner; rather, it is a specific graphic display of the source code for use by the programmer/user in reviewing code more readily than viewing the text of the code itself (which would merely be viewable on a user interface).

Thus, PC does not teach the claimed invention, which requires that the graphical representation use the indication of modifications. Nowhere does the PC reference provide this combination as claimed by the present invention in claim 1.

The above rejections of the claims 1-40 on the stated art grounds are traversed, and consideration of the patentability of the claims 1- 40 is requested, in light of the foregoing remarks.

Claims 1-40 are asserted to be in patentable condition. Allowance of these claims is hereby respectfully requested. In the event that the Examiner finds additional minor modifications that would place these claims in allowable condition, the Examiner is respectfully requested to make telephonic contact with the Attorney of Record to discuss

and make changes via Examiner's Amendment to place the claims in condition for allowance.

The above rejections of the claims 1-40 on the stated art and utility grounds are traversed, and consideration of the patentability of the claims 1-40 is requested, in light of the foregoing remarks. Favorable action is therefore requested.

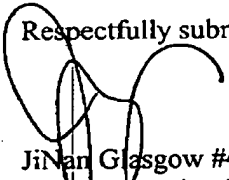
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, claims 1-40 constituting the claims pending in the application, are submitted to be fully patentably and in allowable condition to address and overcome the rejections.

If any issues remain outstanding, incident to the allowance of the application, Examiner Chuong is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at (919)-664-8222 or via email at jinang@trianglepatents.com to discuss the resolution of such issues, in order that prosecution of the application may be concluded favorably to the applicant, consistent with the applicant's making of a substantial advance in the art and particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter that the applicant regards as the invention.

This Office Action response is submitted via fax to the official group fax number at 703.746.7239 on July 12, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



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